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ABSTRACT

This document explores the history of Wisconsin during the revolutionary years of 1750 through 1815. Published quarterly by the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, the journal is designed to acquaint elementary school students with historical and contemporary aspects of life in Wisconsin. Most of this issue contains short narratives describing the explorations and battles of famous people in the state's history. Eight sections use narrative and excerpts from personal diaries to document exploration of the Northwest Territory, alliances and trade with Indian tribes, battles against French and British troops, reconstruction of the oldest remaining house in Wisconsin, life histories of revolutionary soldiers, and the War of 1812. A crossword puzzle, time line, and creative activities are presented which emphasize important facts, dates, and concepts from the historical narratives. Many pictures, drawings, and maps illustrate the content. (AV)

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The Revolutionary Years, 1750-1815

Badger History

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A complete history of the American Revolution can never be written until the history of change in each state is known.

John Adams, 1807

SO 010 472

Badger History

The State Historical Society of Wisconsin
816 State Street
Madison, Wisconsin 53706
James Morton Smith, Director

Editor	Howard W. Kanetzke
Artist	Judy Patenaude
Consultants	Doris H. Platt
	Thurman O. Fox

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all others, Judy Patenaude
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Coming of Independence

John Adams was a hero of the American Revolution. He spoke these words long before Wisconsin became a state. Wisconsin had been far from the sound of battle. Few people lived here at the time of the war. And yet, events that took place here are a part of the Revolution. The war produced some quick changes in the colonies. In Wisconsin, change came more slowly.

It took many years for Wisconsin to become a real part of the United States. Between 1750 and 1814, Wisconsinites changed sides. Charles Langlade served both France and England. Judge Porlier served the British and Americans. All, however, are a part of our history.

On July 4, 1776, American leaders signed the Declaration of Independence. The Revolutionary War began. The last battle of the war was fought in 1781. A peace treaty followed the next year. The colonies gained their freedom from Britain. 3

In Wisconsin, independence came more slowly. France had controlled the region until 1763. Then it became a British land. Only a few Europeans lived in the Wisconsin region. They had come here through the Great Lakes. They sent their children to schools in Montreal or Quebec. They had little in common with people in the colonies along the Atlantic Coast.

When the war came, Wisconsin traders and Indians sided with the British. After the war, the Wisconsin region was given to the United States. But British traders did not leave. They continued their work. It was not until after the War of 1812 that Wisconsin was free of British control.

After 1787, Wisconsin was part of the Northwest Territory. Yet it was not until 1848 that our state was formed.

This issue of *Badger History* explores Wisconsin between 1750 and 1815. This period marks the early beginnings of our state.

Charles Langlade

BRAVEST OF THE BRAVE

BY Howard Kanetzke

Charles Langlade boasted that he had fought in ninety-nine battles. He wanted to make it an even one hundred. How he kept track--on paper or in his head, no one knows.

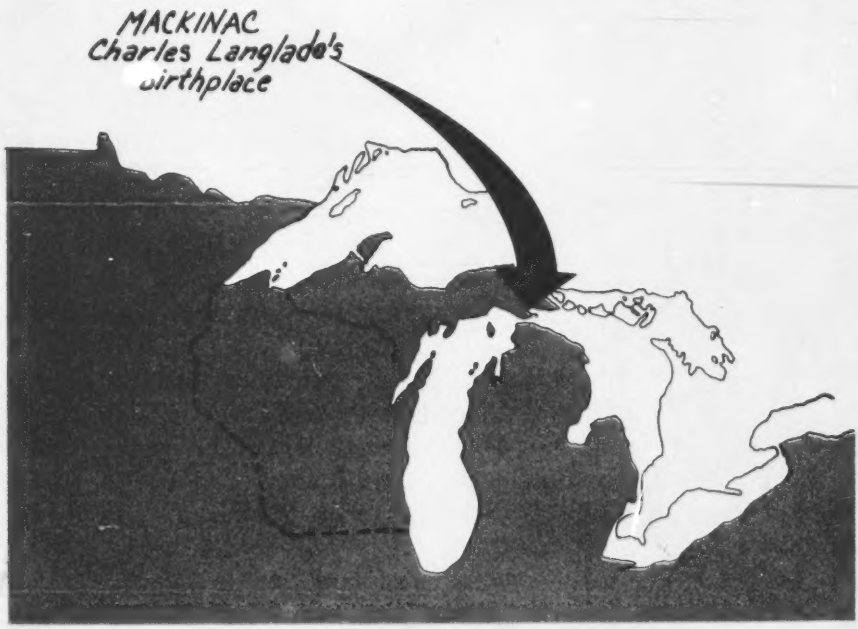
Langlade was born in 1729 at Mackinac* (Măk-ĭ-năw). This is an island between Lake Huron and Lake Michigan. Charles' father was a french fur trader. His mother was an Ottawa Indian.

Charles had many Indian friends and relatives. In 1739 Charles was a boy of ten. That year his uncle, Chief La Fourche, had a dream. He woke believing that Charles was protected by a strong spirit. He went to Charles' father. "If my nephew goes to battle with us, we will surely win!" So the lad went with

*The French called this place Michilimackinac (Mĭ shĭ lĭ măk' i năw).

the war party. The Indians were successful. Afterward, Charles was known to be a great warrior. Indians believed that he could not lose a battle. When he grew older, they followed him into battle. His pleasant, round face was well-known to traders and Indians alike.

At the time Charles was growing up, France controlled most of the land around the Great Lakes. But British traders began arriving after 1740. In 1748 the English built a



Indians called Charles *A-ke-wau-ge-ke-tau-so* or He-who-is-fierce-for-the-land. Langlade is also known as "Wisconsin's first settler." Historians name him the "Father of Wisconsin." A rather short man, Charles Langlade had a square frame. fort and trading post at Pickawillany (in Ohio). Many Indians took their furs to this post. They traded for supplies. French traders became upset. French officials warned the British to leave the region. But the English traders remained.

Finally, the French decided to force the British to go. In 1752 the French organized groups of Indians to drive the British away. Charles Langlade, age 23, put his Indian knowledge and skills to work. He gathered about 240 Wisconsin Indians. They raided Pickawillany. The British fled. Pickawillany was burned. Soon, many Indians were again hauling furs to French traders.

Another Battle

In 1755 Langlade again left home to aid the French. The British had sent General Braddock to win control of the fur trade. Charles gathered Indian warriors. They marched to defend French forts. Some writers say that Langlade planned and organized the battle in which Braddock was defeated. Langlade and the Wisconsin Indians played an important part in the fight. (See the article *Braddock's Defeat).*

Langlade's next military mission came two years later. He took a large number of Indians to the east to defend Canada. Langlade helped to capture Fort William Henry. He and his Indians aided in defending Quebec. They fought in several small battles in the city. Quebec, however, fell in September, 1759. The King of France wrote a letter about Langlade. For bravery at Quebec, Langlade was made an army officer.

Langlade carried the sad news of the defeat to Mackinac and the Indian villages.

Helping the British

Langlade's military life did not end with the defeat of the French. Soon he became as valuable to the British as he had been to his French friends.

After the French left Canada, the Langlades moved to Green Bay. The English Commander at Mackinac wrote this letter:

April 13, 1763

I have, this day, given permission to the Messers. Langlade, father and son, to remain at the post La Baye, and do hereby order that no person may interupt (stop) their voyage thither (there) with their wives, children, servants, and baggage.

George Ethrington
Commandant

Charles and his father, Augustin, settled on the east side of the Fox River. Charles cleared some fields to raise vegetables. The first house and storehouse were near the river. "When the north wind blew, the water crept up to the doorway." It was easy, however, to unload canoes here.

Charles had married Charlotte Bourassa in 1754. They had two daughters, Charlotte and Domitelle. Domitelle married Pierre Grignon, son of a trader. Charles continued trading at Green Bay and decided to make this place his home. The years before 1775 were quiet ones.

Then the Revolutionary war began. Charles again travelled to the east with Wisconsin Indians. In 1777, he went to aid General Burgoyne. The Indians, however, did not like Burgoyne or his ideas about warfare. Finally, the Indians returned home. Langlade went with them.

Once again during the war Langlade was asked to gather Indians to fight. General Hamilton needed aid. So in 1779, he travelled to the Milwaukee area. But the Indians did not listen to Langlade. They did not want to fight. So Langlade held a "dog feast" to stir the Indians up against the Americans. He placed hearts of dogs on sticks at either end of a long lodge. Then, chanting war songs, he danced through the lodge. He bit pieces from each heart. This was a call to bravery. The Indians joined him and agreed to fight the Americans. But it was too late. Before the war party had gone far, word came that Hamilton had surrendered.

After the Revolution

After the war ended, Langlade remained in Green Bay. In 1782, the British gave him the deed to lands at Green Bay. He was also commander of the [redacted]. Each year the people of this area celebrated the first of May. On that day, a new flagpole was raised. Members of the militia opened the celebration by firing a salute over the pole. Dressed in a scarlet British uniform, Langlade was a colorful figure on this holiday. Games and good food were part of the event.

Charles Langlade loved to tell the stories of his life to his grandchildren. He told of trading with the Indians. He remembered serving first the French and then the English. Years later, Augustin Grignon, one of his grandchildren, wrote a long article about early days in Wisconsin. Augustin retold some of the stories that Grandfather Langlade had told him.

Charles Langlade retired in the 1790's. He received a payment of $800.00 each year from the British government. He was also given 3,000 acres of land in Canada. Charles Langlade died at Green Bay in 1800.

10 Langlade is Remembered

A county has been named after Langlade. Langlade has been called the "first settler of Wisconsin" and the "Father of Wisconsin." He probably did not think of himself in these terms. He earned the titles for being the first permanent white settler to make his home in what became Wisconsin.

Charles Langlade was first and always a fur trader. This work gave him an understanding of Indians. Because of this, he was able to organize and lead Indians in forest warfare. He was a brave man, a skilled woodsman and fighter. He gave outstanding service to both the French and British. He was made a militia officer by both governments. He received honors, land grants and payments of money. None of these was awarded for small deeds; and to the Indians, he was "Bravest of the Brave."

Green Bay citizens put up this marker:

CHARLES LANGLADE

"Bravest of the Brave"

Led his Indian band in ninety-nine battles. His tact and diplomacy brought peace to the warring tribes in the Fox River. He was held in high esteem by French, English and Americans. His death occurred in 1800.

Braddock's Defeat

This painting is called Braddock's Defeat. *It shows Charles Langlade (lower left). He is leading an attack by Wisconsin Indians. The artist was Edwin Willard Deming. He read about the battle before beginning his work. The painting was given to the State Historical Society of Wisconsin in 1903. Here is the story behind the picture.*

12 *1 Charles Langlade 2. General Braddock 3. fallen American*

In January, 1755, an army of soldiers sailed from England. Their leader was General Braddock. Word spread that the redcoats would try to take land held by the French. By summer, many Indians had decided to help their French friends.

Wisconsin Indians traveled to Ft. Duquesne (now Pittsburgh). They were led by Charles Langlade. They arrived early in July. Soon scouts arrived with news. "The British are coming. They are less than ten miles away."

Braddock's men had marched about 100 miles from Fort Cumberland, Virigina. The trip was long. It took more than a month.

Woodsmen cut a path through the thick forest. The

British soldiers wore redcoats. Members of the Virginia militia wore blue.

The French Move Out

Seventy French soldiers, one hundred and fifty Canadians and more than six hundred Indians moved out to meet Braddock. General Braddock (on the black horse, center) ordered his men to charge. Flags waved, and drums and bagpipes sounded. The soldiers moved forward. After the first attack, Charles Langlade (right hand raised, lower left corner) led his Indians around the British. The redcoats entered a little [redacted]. Langlade's men attacked from both sides.

As the Indians fired, English soldiers fell. Members of the Virginia [redacted] took shelter in the trees. But Braddock marched his British regulars forward. Some of the aimless fire of British rifles killed other redcoats. The British shot their small cannons. The shots went high into the trees. Branches fell to the ground. Riderless horses ran through the smoke of battle. At last, Braddock gave the order to retreat. As he turned, Braddock was wounded. The redcoats became a mob rather than an army. They fled in terror. They "ran as sheep pursued by dogs." About 1,000 of the nearly 1,500 soldiers led by Braddock were killed. Braddock himself died of his wounds. The battle ended with victory for France.

Soon after this battle, war was declared between England and France. The two nations fought to control the New World. The final battle of the war was fought at Quebec. Langlade again wanted to prepare a surprise attack. He knew the British soldiers' fear of Indian warfare. However, French leaders did not approve his plan. Quebec fell to the British. A treaty was signed in Paris in 1763. France lost her lands. Control of the Great Lakes region passed to the British.

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WORDS
To Learn and Use

Some words have many meanings. The definitions on these pages explain how the words are used in *Badger History*.

Barracks *(băr′ăks)* A building that houses soldiers. These are huts or large buildings.

Brigade *(brĭ gād′)* An organized unit of soldiers made up of two or more regiments.

Diplomacy *(dĭ plō′mĭs sy)* Helping people of differing opinions to agree.

Enlist *(ĕn lĭst′)* To sign up to serve in the army or navy for a number of months or years.

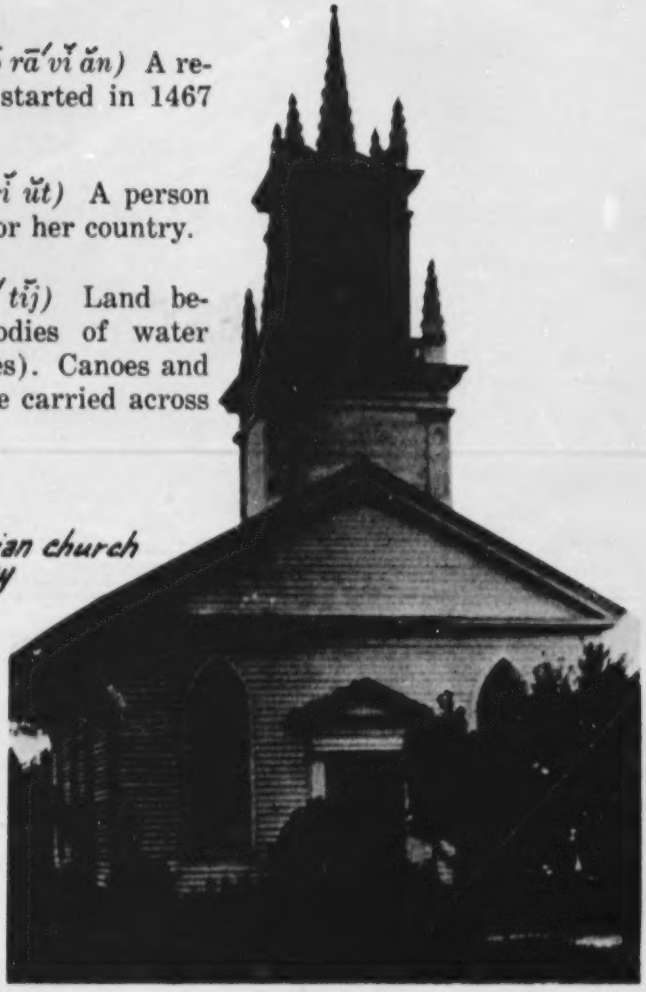
Kernels *(kŭr′nĕls)* Seeds that grow in ears of corn or on stalks of rice.

Militia *(mĭ lĭsh′ă)* A group of citizens who have had military training. They are called to serve in emergencies. National Guard.

Moravian *(Mō rā′vĭ ăn)* A religious group started in 1467 in Bohemia.

Patriot *(pā′trĭ ŭt)* A person who loves his or her country.

Portage *(pōr′tĭj)* Land between two bodies of water (rivers or lakes). Canoes and supplies can be carried across this land.



Moravian church at Green Bay

15

Ravine *(rə vēn′)* A small narrow valley that is larger than a gully but smaller than a canyon.

Surveyor *(sŭr vā′ĕr)* A person who marks and maps boundaries of land.

Wisconsin's FIRST Yankee Tourist

by Howard Kanetzke

16

Jonathan Carver was born in 1710. He grew up in the quiet town of Weymouth, Massachusetts. Neighbors would have chuckled if anyone had suggested that this boy would someday become an explorer. Yet that is what he did.

As a lad Jonathan enjoyed school. His father was eager for the lad to have a fine education. As a teenager, Jonathan studied medicine with Dr. Joseph Perkins. But the lad did not complete his work or become a doctor. In 1746 he married Hannah Dyer. In 1759 the couple moved to Montague, Massachusetts.

In 1763, England and France went to war. Jonathan enlisted as a private in the English army. He was soon promoted to captain. General Gage

wrote: "He (Carver) served as a captain during the late war. He bore the character of a good man." Carver had an exciting life as a soldier. He fought in the battle at Ft. William Henry in 1757. Though wounded in the battle, he escaped with his life. While in service, Carver learned [redacted] and mapmaking. These skills were later helpful in his Wisconsin travels.

After the war, Jonathan found civilian life dull. He thought, "The war is over. Great Britain now owns all of French Canada. How I would enjoy exploring that wilderness. I might even find a waterway connecting Hudson's Bay with the Pacific Ocean."

Little was known about this new land. The French had kept others from knowing anything about the wilderness. Carver wrote, "They (the French) had published false maps and accounts. They called the Indians by nicknames — not by their real names." Carver met Robert Rogers. This famous soldier was now commander of the Old French post at Mackinac. Rogers also wanted to know more about the new lands.

He offered to pay Carver to lead a band of explorers. The trip would be long, he explained. Rogers promised to send supplies for the return trip. Carver would find them at the Falls of St. Anthony (present-day Minneapolis).

The expedition left Mackinac in September 1766. The first stop was at an Indian village near Green Bay. Carver wrote: "I ate of an uncommon kind of bread. The Indians slice off [redacted] from corncobs and make a paste. This is wrapped in basswood leaves, and put in the coals of the campfire. It is soon baked. And better flavored bread I never ate in any country." 17

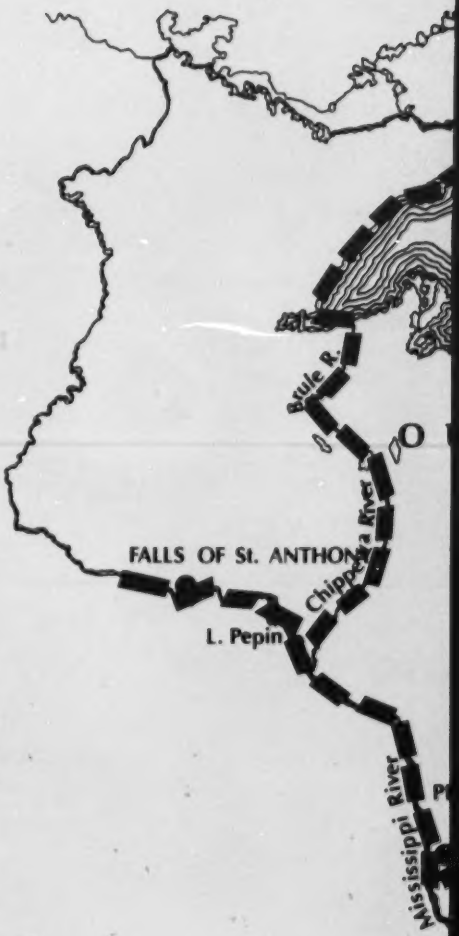
Leaving this village the men paddled up the Fox River. Soon they saw the waters of Lake Winnebago. Carver landed at an Indian village. Today that place is called Doty Island. It is part of the cities of Neenah and Menasha. There Carver met Glory of the Morning. She was the founder of the famous Decorah Indian family. Carver wrote, "She was an ancient (old) woman. Her people seemed greatly pleased when I showed respect to their queen. I saluted her often to gain her

favor. Then the good old lady assumed a childlike gaiety. By her smiles, she showed that she was pleased with the attention I paid her."

The men rested several days. Carver collected information about the land ahead. Then they set out upstream. Their canoes followed the crooked route of the Fox River. Finally, the travelers reached the [redacted] Here they carried canoes and supplies overland to the Wisconsin River.

18

Carver wrote: "On the 8th of October we got our canoes into the Ouisconsin River. At this place (it) is more than a hundred yards wide. The next day (we) arrived at the Great Town of the Saukies. This is the largest and best built Indian town I ever saw. It contains about ninety houses. Each large enough for several families. These are built of planks and covered with bark



LAKE SUPERIOR
St. MARIE
MACKINAC
ISCONSIN
ERRITORY
LAKE HURON
19
LAKE MICHIGAN
GREEN BAY
Fox R.
L. Winnebago
DOTY'S ISLAND
IRIE
U CHIEN
uisconsin River
J. Carver's
Expedition, 1766-67

to keep out the rains. Before the doors are placed comfortable sheds. Here the inhabitants sit and smoke their pipes. The streets are wide and straight. It appears more like a civilized town than that of savages. The land near the town is good. The fields are neatly laid out. The Indians raise great amounts of Indian corn, beans, melons. So this place is the best market for traders within eight hundred miles."

A week later the expedition landed at "La Prairie des Chien," (Prairie du Chien). While talking to French traders Carver almost lost his canoes and supplies to a wandering band of Indians. Then, the travelers paddled up the Mississippi. They arrived at Lake Pepin on November 1.

After traveling many miles they came to a deep cave. "The Indians call it 'Dwelling of the Great Spirit.' The entrance is about ten feet wide. The arch within is near fifteen feet high and about thirty feet across. Twenty feet from the entrance a lake begins. The water is clear. The darkness of the cave prevents all attempts to acquire knowledge of it. I found in this cave many Indian (drawings) which appeared to be ancient (old). They were nearly covered with moss. It was difficult to trace them. They were carved in a crude manner upon walls. The stone is soft and is easily cut with a knife."

Carver continued his trip up the Mississippi to the Falls of St. Anthony. A young chieftain traveled with the explorer. "I was pleased and surprised by this work of nature (waterfall). But my attention was called off by the actions of my companion.

"He began to address the Great Spirit saying he had come a long way. Now he would make the best offerings in his power. He threw his pipe into the stream, then the roll of tobacco, and finally his arm and neck bracelets. He smote his breast and threw his arms about."

Leaving the thundering falls, Carver moved overland. On December 7, he reached the westernmost point of his travels. There he met a band of Eastern Sioux. He lived with them for seven months. They told him about the geography of the land to the west.

In April, 1767, he traveled with them back east to the huge cave. A great council was held here each year. "Never did I travel with so cheerful and happy a company."

At the council meeting Carver spoke to the Indians. He told them of the great power of the English king. He urged the Indians to be good subjects of this fine English chieftain. Years later, after Carver's death, his children told of this meeting. They declared that the Indian chiefs had given Carver a deed to a large amount of land. But this gift, known as the Carver Grant, is not mentioned in his writings.

The supplies that Rogers had promised to send to the Falls of St. Anthony did not arrive. Carver decided to return to Mackinac by way of Lake Superior. He traveled down the Mississippi to the Chippewa River. Paddling up the Chippewa the travelers portaged to a stream flowing into Lake Superior. Following the north shore of the lake they arrived at the Falls of St. Marie. Carver wrote: "At the bottom of the falls, Nature has formed a place for catching fish. These are found in great quantities. Persons standing on the rocks dip nets and take large whitefish."

The travelers returned to Mackinac. Carver discovered that Major Rogers did not have authority for the trip. Rogers did not even have money for Carver's wages! Disappointed, Carver decided to write his adventures down in a book. He went to Boston. He printed articles in the newspapers asking for money to print the book. When no one answered, he crossed the Atlantic to London. Finally in 1778, his book was published. It was popular. Unfortunately, the publishers took most of the money. On January 31, 1780 Jonathan Carver died of starvation. It was after his death that his family began to claim the Carver Grant. The case was taken to courts in both England and the United States. The grant was never recognized by either government.

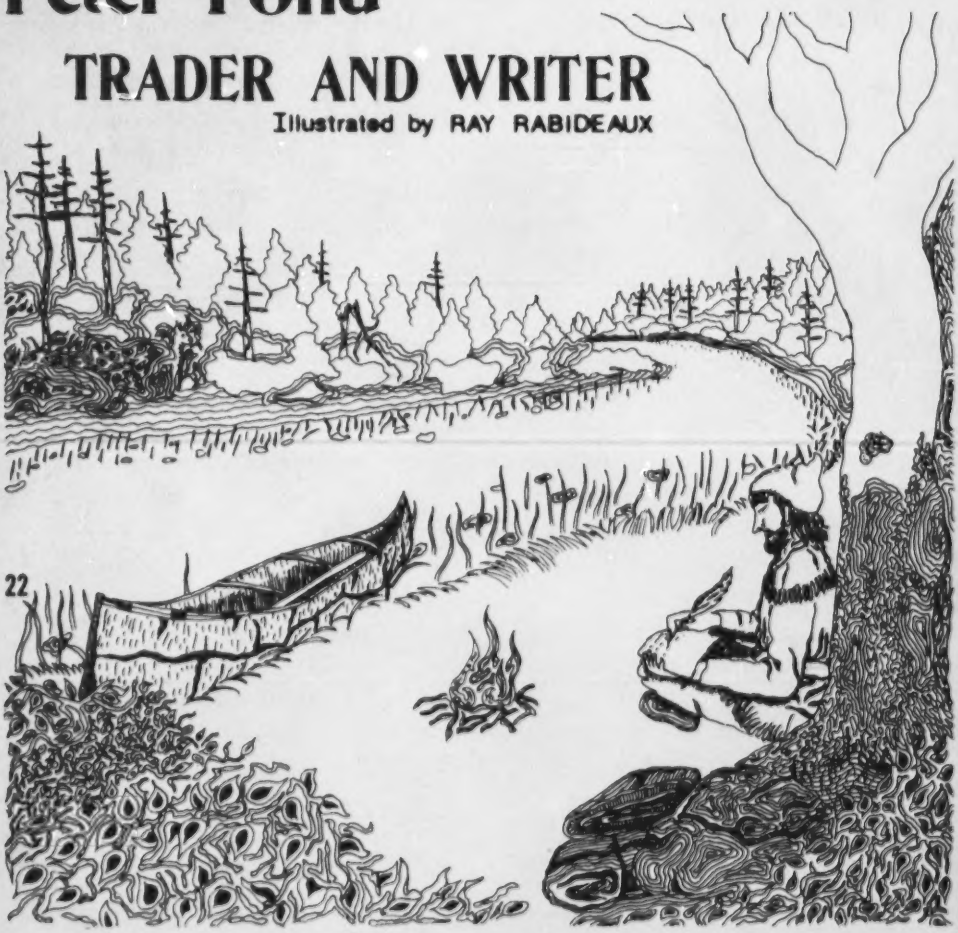
21

We owe a debt of gratitude to Carver. Not only was he Wisconsin's first Yankee tourist, but he wrote about the places he visited. Today we can read his book and see the Wisconsin of the 1760's through his eyes.

Peter Pond

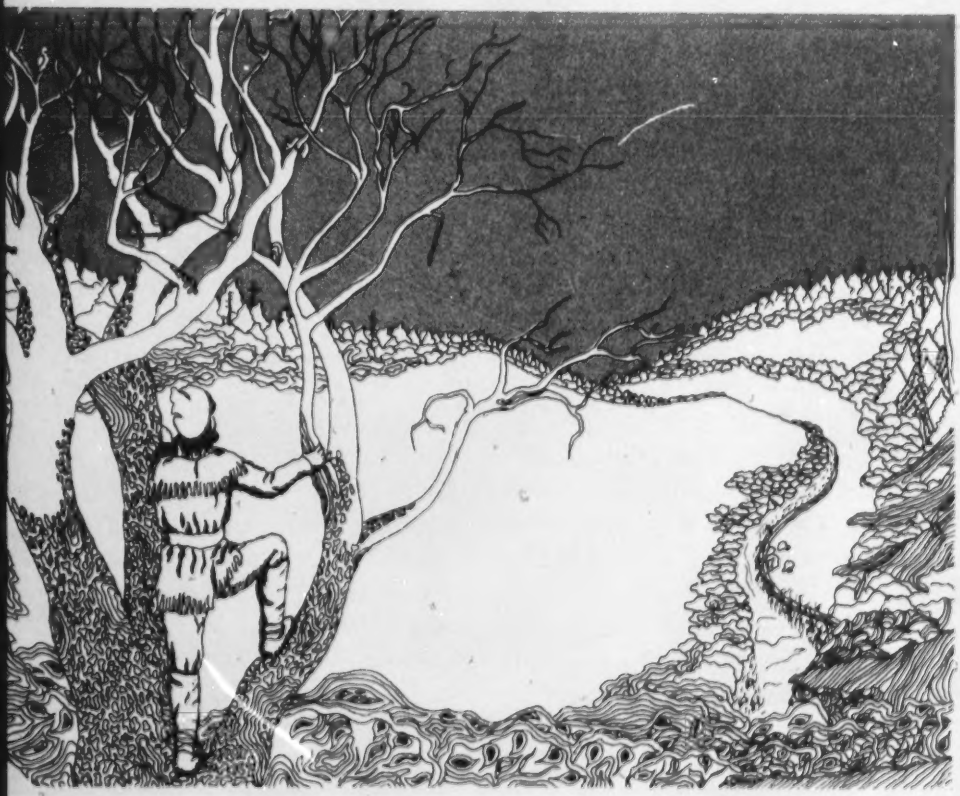
TRADER AND WRITER

Illustrated by RAY RABIDEAUX



No one has written more colorfully about the fur trade than Peter Pond. Peter was a British trader. He lived in Prairie du Chien from 1773 to 1775. His diary has many descriptions of Wisconsin. He tells of the Indians and the landscape. Through his words we see Wisconsin at the time of the American Revolution. Peter spelled words the way they sounded to him. So some of them look strange to us. Try reading his words out loud. Then it is easier to understand them!

Peter had fought in the French and Indian War. Afterward, he went to Detroit. He spent six years in the fur trade there. "Then I Made a ture (tour) to ye West Indees. On my Return Home I receaved a letter from a Gentelman in New York. He Desired to Go into Partner Ship with me in the (fur) trade. We Lade in a cargo. I went In to the Enterer (interior) part of the Countrey — first to Mishlemackanack (Mackinac). From thenst I went to the Mississippey."



And so Peter begins telling about his trip to Wisconsin. The mouth of Green Bay, he said, "is two or three Miles Brod." He found a French village at the end of the bay. "This land is Exalent. The Inhabitans Rase fine corn and Sum artickels for famaley youse in thar gardens. They have Sum trade with the Indians which Pas that way. On the North Part of this Bay is a small Villeag of Indians Cald the Mannamaneas (Menominees). They live by hunting Cheafley. The Bay produces a Large Quantity of Wilde Rice. Thay geather (it) for food."

Peter and his men traveled up the Fox River. The river was crooked. Sometimes it was marshy. "We Came to a Shallo Lake whare you Could Sea water But just in the Canoe track. The Wild Oates ware so thick that the Indians Could Scarse Git a small Canoe into it to Geather it. The Wild Ducks When thay Ris(e) Made a Nois like thunder."

After getting through the marsh, Peter again wrote about the crooked river. "We have to go two Miles Without Geating fiftey yards ahead." The river bank, he said, "is almost Leavel with the Water. Medoes on Each sid are Clothed with a Good sort of Grass."

They arrived at the [redacted] between the Fox and Wisconsin Rivers. Pond and his men carried canoes and goods across. The work took two days. Then they were off down the Wisconsin. Peter called it a "Gentel Glideing Streame." He saw many "Rattel" snakes in the river.

The next day the traders arrived at the Sauk village. The Sauk," said Peter, "are of a Good Sise." So were their houses! "Sum of thare Huts are Sixtey feet long. Thay Contanes several Fammalayes." The houses "have no flores. They Bild fires on the Ground in the Midel of the Hut." Smoke went through a hole in the "ruf."

After a few more days of travel the traders arrived at Prairie du Chien. Peter wrote, "This Plane is a Very Handsum one. The Plane is Verey Smooth hear. Botes from New

Peter Pond's journey

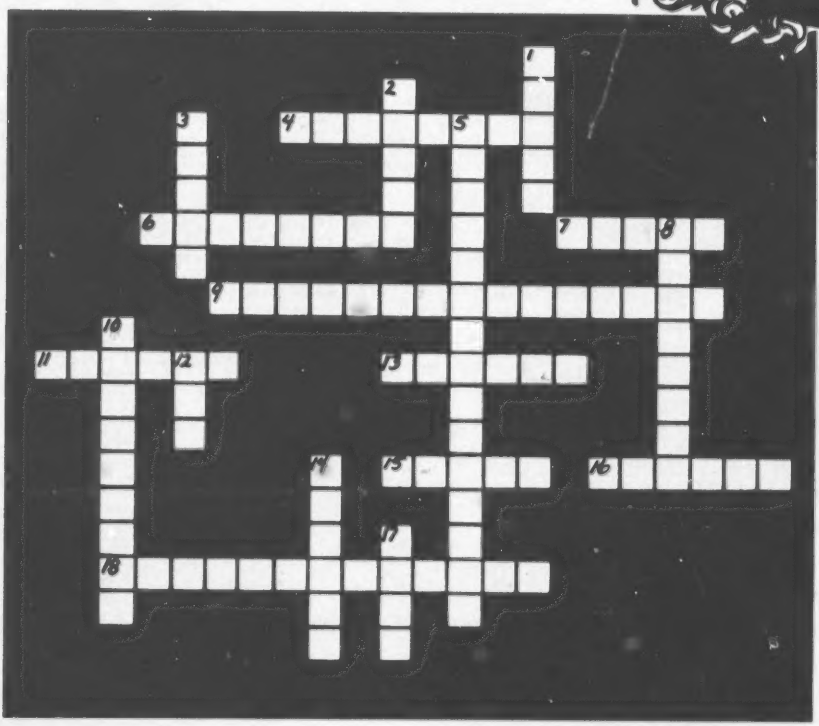
25

Orleans Cum hear. They Cum up the River Eight Hundred Leages (about 2,400 miles)."

Peter Pond spent the winter at Prairie du Chien. The following spring he paddled up the Mississippi. He traveled about the Lake Superior country. He made a rich haul of furs. The next year, he returned to winter at Prairie du Chien. In 1778 Pond joined several friends. They formed the famous North West Company. It became an important fur trade business.

Peter sold his part of the business before 1780. He moved to New England. He died in 1807. Many years later his family discovered his diary. It was printed. The words were spelled just as he wrote them. His story gives us an interesting picture of Wisconsin at the time of the Revolution.

26



1. ____ Pond
2. ____ of St. Anthony
3. Samuel Mitchell ____ slaves
4. A Stockbridge Indian
5. Langlade was born at ____ (French spelling)
6. Some Revolutionary War soldiers received ____
7. Washington gave Aupaumut a ____
8. British soldiers were called
9. "Father of Wisconsin" 27
10. Wisconsin was part of the Northwest ____
11. Americans built Ft. ____ at Prairie du Chien
12. "____ Knives"
13. Edward Willard ____, painter
14. Stephen Tainter became a
15. Perkins surrendered to
16. George Washington's servant
17. Indians believed Langlade could not ____ a battle
18. ____ War

WISCONSIN'S BICENTENNIAL COTTAGE

28

The Roi-Porlier-Tank Cottage is named after its three owners. The families of Joseph Roi, Jacques Porlier, and Nils Tank all lived in the house. It was built in 1776 on the west side of the Fox River at Green Bay. In that year Americans were fighting for freedom from the English. But Wisconsin was far from the war.

The cottage is the oldest house standing in the state. It was built by Joseph Roi. His brother, Amable, helped. The men were French fur traders. They built the house in a special way. It is called "wattle" construction. Four logs were set upright in the ground at the corners. Other timbers were added. Then branches and vines were woven into this frame. Finally, the walls were plastered with clay or mud.

Tank cottage in its original location

Wattle buildings were popular with Frenchmen. Many buildings like Tank Cottage were put up in Canada. Most wattle houses were used only for a short time. This one, however, was covered by boards both inside and out. It remained strong and firm.

A rough stone chimney stood at one end. Windows were protected by heavy wooden shutters.

Joseph Roi could neither read nor write. How did he sign his name? With an "X"! Joseph spent each spring collecting maple syrup. He heated it to make maple sugar. Joseph also fished, hunted, and cultivated a garden. Amable Roi also lived at Green Bay. He married Charles Langlade's sister.

In 1805, Jacques Porlier bought the cottage. He arrived from Canada in 1791. He was a well-educated man. At first he worked as a clerk for the Grignon family. Then Jacques became the first schoolmaster in Green Bay. Later, he also became a fur trader. He spent long weeks traveling to Indian villages.

During the War of 1812, Porlier served as a captain under the English. After the war, the Americans came to Green Bay. Porlier became the judge for Brown County. He was known as a fair and honest man.

Judge Porlier was liked by French, English and Americans. A kind man, he was always willing to help people in need. As a judge, he kept many handwritten records.

Porlier lived in the cottage with his family. The house was little changed from the days when the Roi family lived there. The judge and Marguerite, his daughter, planted a garden of vegetables and flowers. The garden was his pride.

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When she was about twelve years old, Marguerite was sent to school. She lived with aunts near Montreal. Marguerite did not care for school. She longed to go home. Here is one of her letters:

May 16, 1814

My Dear Papa,

I know that I owe everything to you--everything except what God has given me. I wish you good health. I pray God to watch and care for you and my dear mama. You know that my generous uncle died at the end of March. Give mother a hug. I promise you to make the best use of my time that I can. I hope that you will come to see us soon.

I am your respectful daughter,

Marguerite

After several years of school, Marguerite was happy to return to her family, the cottage and the gardens.

Judge Porlier could read but not speak English. French was spoken in his courtroom. After 1821, Green Bay became part of Michigan Territory. Judge Porlier translated the laws from English to French. He became an American citizen in 1821.

Jacques Porlier died in 1839. Relatives lived in the house until 1850. That year the Nils Otto Tank family arrived from Holland. They bought the cottage. As a young man Mr. Tank had been a missionary. His wife died. He and his daughter, Mary, moved to Holland. There he married Caroline Van der Meulin in 1849.

The Tanks arrived in Green Bay the following year. They came with a group of [redacted] Tank hoped to start a Moravian settlement. He built rooms on each end of the cottage. The north room became a worship center for the settlers. The congregation was called "Ephraim" meaning "fruitful." Members of the group finally decided to settle in nearby Door County. Their town, Ephraim, took the name of the congregation. 31

Nils and Caroline were sorry to see their friends leave. They began to beautify their clumsy old cottage. Caroline was wealthy. Each year trunks containing paintings, china, furniture and dishes arrived from Holland.

Nils became a businessman. He joined a group of men who wanted to build canals on the Fox and Wisconsin Rivers. He did not make money in this business. Nils died in 1864. Caroline and Mary remained in the cottage. Mary died in 1872. Mrs. Tank was lonely. She gave much of her money away. She built a mission chapel in China. The chapel was in memory of Mary. Mrs. Tank also gave money for an orphanage. She built a memorial park for the people of Green Bay. She died in 1891. She had no relatives still living. Many of the treasures from

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the cottage about 1900

Nils Tank

Holland were never unpacked from the trunks they arrived in. These priceless household items were sold at an auction (sale).

The house became part of the Eldred Lumber Company. Soon, however, George Rice bought the cottage. He liked the old house. He kept it in good repair. After 1900, the house was to be torn down to make space for another building. Mr. Rice offered it to Green Bay. City officials agreed to move the cottage to a new location away from the river. Moving a "wattle" house was no easy task. The work started in 1907. When the cottage was being lifted, it nearly fell apart. By 1908, however, the cottage was safely moved to Union Park. This was the park that Mrs. Tank had given to the city.

A few years later, a Tank Cottage Committee was organized. People gave money to help restore the house. Others gave items that had been sold at the auction in 1891. Gardeners planted a Dutch garden near the cottage. Green Bay citizens have continued to take care of Wisconsin's Bicentennial Cottage. The people of Green Bay and the Department of Natural Resources have planned a Bicentennial Park at Green Bay. This park is home to several historic buildings. Tank cottage has a new home in the park.

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Tank Cottage restored

Soldiers of the Revolution

35

By Howard Kanetzke

In the 1700's, most Americans did not like the idea of war. "Surely there must be another way to settle our problems," they said. But the weeks became months and years. No answers came.

The government in Great Britain continued to pass new laws. Americans read about the laws and were unhappy. "These taxes are not fair. We are no longer treated as other English citizens."

With each new law, more people began to say, "Perhaps war is the only way. Then we will be free to write our own laws. We will have fair taxes.

Everyone will be treated as equals." Some men decided to get ready to fight. They were called minutemen. They agreed to be ready at a moment's notice. Minutemen believed the war would come soon.

Not everyone thought that Americans could gain freedom. "See how many soldiers are coming on ships. They have plenty of weapons and ammunition."

Others believed that it was wrong to fight for freedom. "We are all Englishmen. The king is our ruler. The government is far away across the ocean. How can we expect to be a part of it. Yes, taxes are high, but times will get better." These people were called Tories.

But the war came. During the years of war, thousands of Americans served in the army. Not all of these people performed heroic deeds. Many received no awards or medals. But they were not looking for awards. They believed that it was no longer possible to live under British rule. They were willing to do the tasks that their leaders asked them to do. Some were willing to be soldiers. Others provided supplies. Some made blankets and clothing for the army. A few gave large amounts of money. Both soldiers and citizens went without food and clothing. Together, they defeated the British.

The war ended in a treaty. By that agreement, the United States received a large amount of land west of the mountains. After the war, some people were restless. They said, "There is much land beyond the mountains. It is a fine region for farming. Let's move there."

Many veterans moved to the Northwest Territory. They settled in Ohio, Indiana, and later in Michigan and Illinois. Wisconsin was the last state carved out of the Northwest Territory. By the time settlers came here, many veterans were old. A number of these men came to live with their children and grandchildren.

Aids to Veterans

Men who fought in the Revolution received aid from the government. Pension Acts were passed by Congress. These laws gave money to ex-soldiers. Often, however, it was not enough money to live on. George Dill joined the army at 17. In 1845 he moved to Wisconsin. He asked that his pension be sent here. The 86-year-old man explained, "My children have moved to Milwaukee

County. I cannot support myself without their aid."

Other veterans lived in Wisconsin with their children. Many families lived on farms. For some of them, the pensions were the only cash income they had.

About forty Revolutionary War soldiers are known to be buried in Wisconsin. There are probably others. Perhaps we will learn their stories someday. Most veterans who lived in Wisconsin were farmers. But we know of veterans who were doctors and ministers. One soldier was an Indian chief. During the Revolution, men usually volunteered for three month [redacted] Some volunteered several times. Here are the stories of a few men who made Wisconsin their home.

Aupaumut

Aupaumut was born in about 1757 at Stockbridge, Massachusetts. He was a member of the Stockbridge Tribe. His English name was Hendrick. At about 18 he left home to join the army. He served as a private from June to August, 1775. His regiment was stationed near Boston. Perhaps he was at the battle of Bunker Hill.

Hendrick enlisted again in February, 1776. He received an "enlistment bounty" or payment. It was "an overcoat or similar amount of money." By 1778, Aupaumut had become an officer. He was a lieutenant in a company of Indians. Aupaumut was made a captain on the battlefield. He sometimes served as a scout. Aupaumut stayed in the army until 1782. After the war, General Washington gave him a sword. In 1792, the government asked Aupaumut to visit western Indian tribes. His trip helped the government to win new friends among the Indians. Captain Aupaumut later returned to the army during the War of 1812.

In 1821 the Stockbridge Indians decided to move to Wisconsin. They bought land from the Menominees. Hendrick moved west with his people. Aupaumut, Native American, soldier, chief, died in September, 1829. He is buried in the Stockbridge Indian Cemetery near Kaukauna.

Rufus Carver

Rufus Carver was born in 1755 at Montague, Massachusetts. His father, Jonathan Carver, traveled throughout Wisconsin when Rufus was a boy. (See article "Wisconsin's First Yankee Tourist.") Rufus was a minuteman. He marched with his unit to Cambridge after the battle of Lexington, 1775. He was at the battle of Bunker Hill. Rufus signed up for several short enlistments. He was discharged in November, 1777.

Rufus made his home in Brandon, Vermont. He was the oldest child in the family. He had the task of settling his father's estate. The family believed that Indians had given Carver a deed to a large amount of land in Wisconsin and Minnesota. Rufus tried to get the government to recognize this claim. He wrote to the Sioux Indians. He hired lawyers. They asked Congress to recognize the deed. Rufus was not successful. Rufus later moved to New York. Then, after 1838, he moved to Wisconsin. His family lived at East Troy (Walworth County). He died in 1840. He is buried in Mound Cemetery in Racine.

Samuel Mitchell

Samuel Mitchell was born March 23, 1764 in Virginia. His family owned a large plantation (farm). Young Samuel often watched slaves at work in the fields. Patrick Henry, the famous American, lived nearby.

When the Revolutionary War came, Sam was a schoolboy. The lad's father left home to join the army. He became a captain. Brothers Edward and James also became soldiers. Because of the war, most schools closed. Sam had little to do. He dreamed of being a soldier. Finally, at age 15, he joined the army. He was given the job of messenger. Sam became a sergeant. He had exciting adventures. Once he was captured, but escaped. Sergeant Mitchell carried messages for General Washington.

After the war, Sam returned home. He married and raised a family. He also became a

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Sam Mitchell

Methodist minister. After a while, he decided that slavery was wrong. He freed his slaves. He was sad when his own sons refused to free their slaves, too.

Mrs. Mitchell died in 1803. Samuel married Eleanor Thomas. He did not want his young children to become slave-owners. He moved to Illinois. When his daughter, Grace, grew up, she married John Rountree. The young couple made their home at Platteville. Grace and John urged the

Mitchells to move to Platteville. The aged couple decided to build a house there. Perhaps Samuel remembered a small Virginia house where George Washington's brother lived. Called "Rising Sun," this cottage was built of wood. The Mitchells, however, decided to use stone. Thick stone walls, they hoped, would keep them snug during the long winters.

The Mitchells lived in this home for more than ten years. Then Eleanor died. Samuel stayed for a while with their son Frank in Missouri. Soon after returning to Platteville the old soldier died.

On Memorial Day, 1932, the federal government decorated his grave with a stone. Mitchell Cottage is now owned by the Grant County Historical Society. It is open to visitors.

Stephen Tainter

Stephen was born October 13, 1760. He grew up in Westboro, Massachusetts. He served as a drummer boy in the Cushing Regiment in summer, 1777. He took part in the battle of Bennington. He reenlisted for another three-month period as a drummer. Twice more, he signed up for the army before the war ended.

After the war, Stephen became a doctor. He treated patients first in Vermont and then New York. At 73 he moved to Prairie du Chien. He lived with his son. In 1846, the family moved to Utica in Crawford County. Dr. Tainter died July 11, 1847.

Custis

Custis was a black man and slave. He was owned by George Washington. Custis traveled with Washington during the war as a servant. After the war, Washington freed Custis. The former slave began traveling west. He lived for a time in Milwaukee. He told of knowing Solomon Juneau, founder of Milwaukee. Then he moved to southern Dane County. Custis died in 1873. He was buried in Canaan Cemetery. Custis did not know his birthdate. He believed that he was more than a century old.

Years of Change: 1750-1815

1729	Charles Langlade born at Mackinac (Michilimackinac)
1739	Charles Langlade goes to battle with his uncle on a war party.
1752	Charles Langlade and Wisconsin Indians raid Pickawillany, Ohio.
1754	Charles Langlade marries Charlotte Bourassa.
1755	Rufus Carver is born in Montague, Massachusetts.
1755	Charles Langlade and Wisconsin Indians help to defeat General Braddock at Ft. Duquesne (Pittsburgh).
1757	Jonathan Carver fights for the British at Ft. William Henry. Charles Langlade helps to capture Ft. William Henry.
1759	Quebec is lost to the British
1760	Stephen Tainter is born in Massachusetts.
1767	Custis is born.
1768	Britain and France sign a treaty. France loses lands in North America to Britain.

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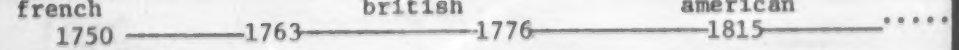

1764	Samuel Mitchell is born in Virginia.
1766	Jonathan Carver begins his travels through Wisconsin.
1767	Carver finishes his travels.
1773	Peter Pond arrives in Prairie du Chien.
1775	Minutemen battle British soldiers at Lexington.
1776	July 4, Declaration of Independence signed. The war begins.
44 1776	Joseph Roi builds his cottage at present Green Bay.
1777	Langlade and Wisconsin Indians go to the aid of British General Burgoyne.
1778	Peter Pond and friends form the North West Company.
1779	Langlade holds a "dog feast" near Milwaukee.
1780	Peter Pond sells his business.
1782	General Washington gives a sword to Aupaumut.
1782	Britain gives Charles Langlade land at Green Bay.

1783	Britain and the United States sign a treaty ending the Revolutionary War.
1787	Congress passes Northwest Ordinance.
1794	John Jay writes treaty. British turn over forts in the Northwest Territory to Americans.
1800	Charles Langlade, "Father of Wisconsin," dies.
1803	France sells lands west of the Mississippi River to the United States.
1807	Peter Pond dies.
1812	Britain and United States go to war.
1812	Forts at Mackinac, Dearborn, and Detroit taken by British and Indians.
1812	Captain Aupaumut re-enlists in the American army.
1814 (June)	Americans build Ft. Shelby at Prairie du Chien.
1814 (July)	British take Ft. Shelby. It is renamed Ft. McKay.
1814 (Dec.)	Peace is signed. The British leave the Northwest Territory. Wisconsin is free of British control.

George Washington is well-known to everyone. As a young man he was a [redacted] and messenger in the wilderness. Later, he was a soldier and commander of the army. As President, he became our most beloved citizen.

When he was a young man, Washington served with General Braddock. Wisconsin Indians, under Charles Langlade, helped to defeat Braddock. Here is a story of George Washington and another Wisconsin citizen, Nathaniel Ames. Ames was a soldier, sailor, preacher and [redacted]. He lived the last years of his life in Wisconsin. Before he died, he told of his life.

Nathaniel Ames was born in Connecticut in 1761. He was raised by his grandfather. He was a teenager when the Revolutionary war began. At 17, he served for one month as a guard on a ship. He also helped built Ft. Griswold. This was near his home at Groton.

In 1779, Nathaniel joined the army. His [redacted] was up in less than a year. Then he joined General Huntington's [redacted]. During the winter of 1779-80, Nathaniel was stationed with the army near Morristown, New Jersey. It was a time of terrible suffering. The weather was cold. Soldiers lived in small log huts. They had little warm clothing. Many had only straw for a bed. Each man had a single blanket for a covering. Some didn't have shoes. The snow was deep. It fell early in autumn and lasted late into spring.

"We have," said George Washington, "had the patience of the army put to the test. Sometimes the men have been five or six days without bread. 47
At other times as many days without meat. Once or twice, two or three days without either.

"At one time the soldiers ate every kind of horse food but hay. Buckwheat, wheat, rye, and Indian corn were ground into flour for bread."

"Washington," said Mr. Ames, "hearing of our suffering, came to the [redacted]. He looked in and spoke words of sympathy and encouragement. We told him we hoped to live until spring. We were eager to fight our country's battles."

In the fall, 1870, the young soldier returned home again. He joined the crew of a ship, *La Fayette*. It had sixteen guns. The ship sailed to Newport, Rhode Island. A French fleet entered the harbor at the same time. These ships carried soldiers. They had come to help the Americans. Nathaniel remembered both seeing and hearing these men. They wore wooden shoes. When they marched, they made a loud tramping sound.

British vessels dropped anchor outside the harbor. The *La Fayette* could not leave.
48 George Washington visited the town. He welcomed the Frenchmen. Nathaniel was proud to see Washington again.

Finally the *La Fayette* was able to leave port. Nathaniel sailed on several voyages. On one trip, the ship was captured. The crew were taken to Bermuda. They spent three months on this island.

The war ended in 1783. Nathaniel joined the crew of another ship. He traveled all over the world. Then he became sick with yellow fever. He nearly died.

Returning home, Nathaniel went to school for a time. He married Sarah Hall and became a farmer. Then, at 30, he became a Methodist preacher. The family moved to Steuben, New York. Nathaniel preached there for forty-five years. Then, at the age of 75, he moved to Wisconsin. With his wife and three of his children, he bought a farm near Oregon. Mrs. Ames died at 89.

In 1859, a friend asked, "Do you remember Washington?"

"Yes," replied Nathaniel, "and old Steuben, too." He paused and thought back through the years. He remembered the excitement and suffering of the war. Big tears rolled down his aged cheeks. Then he added, "You must excuse these tears. For I can never think of these good men without causing my heart to be stirred within me."

Nathaniel Ames, patriot, died in 1863. Years later, special ceremonies were held at his grave. In 1924 the Evansville Masonic Lodge erected a monument to this [redacted] in the Prairie Mound Cemetery at Oregon (Dane County). The following year, the Daughters of the American Revolution also put a marker here. Two of Nathaniel's great-great grandsons unveiled the marker.

When George Washington Was...

*George was twelve years old in 1744, Daniel Boone was nine.

Benjamin Franklin was the best-known American.

John Adams was a farmer boy. John Hancock was his schoolmate.

Louis XV was King of France.

Spain controlled Mexico. Mexico City was many times larger than Philadelphia.

Fifteen-year-old James Cook ran away from his home in England to become a sailor. Later he discovered a new land, Australia.

On one side of the ocean the boy George Washington saw tobacco ships being loaded in Virginia. On the other side a Scottish boy, James Watt, saw them unloaded at the port of Glasgow. That boy later invented the steam engine.

Wisconsin was still wilderness.

Jean Nicolet had come to Wisconsin 110 years before.

Wisconsin Indians had seen their first missionary 71 years before.

The first of the fur traders--Radisson and Groseilliers--had come to Wisconsin 78 years before.

Fox Indian and French wars (1712-31) ended just before George was born.

Jolliet and Marquette had already discovered the upper Mississippi.

Nicolas Perrot had discovered lead mines in Wisconsin and Iowa.

* When George Washington was twenty-nine the British flag flew over Wisconsin. The French had lost control of the area.

* When George was thirty-four, Jonathan Carver began his
51 trip through Wisconsin.

* When George Washington died in 1799, British soldiers and traders still controlled the Wisconsin area.

From Northwest Ordinance To Statehood

The Revolutionary War ended in 1782. A peace treaty was signed the following year. The border between the United States and Canada was drawn through the Great Lakes. This boundary allowed each country to grow westward.

American lands north of the Ohio River were called the Northwest Territory. Many men were eager to buy land here. Some wanted to start new cities. Others were eager to farm. However, several states claimed this region. Finally, all of them decided to give their claims
52 to the United States government. Members of Congress passed a special law to govern this territory. It is called the Northwest Ordinance. The law set up a way for new states to be formed. Wisconsin was part of the Northwest Territory.

The new law said that the Territory should be divided into states. "Not less than three nor more than five" states could be carved from this region. By 1848, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin were all states.

The Ordinance gave everyone religous freedom. All persons in the region were to be free. There could be no slaves. A certain amount of land was

set aside in each township to be used for schools. This land was often sold. The money was used to build schools. Sometimes schools were built on this government land.

The British Stay

The British did not leave the Northwest Territory after the Revolutionary War. They stayed to carry on the fur trade. They did not want American settlers to move in. Settlers built homes. Then there were fewer beaver and deer. The fur trade suffered. 54 So the British urged Indians to fight Americans. American settlers asked the government for help.

Wisconsin Indians agreed to fight the Americans who were called "Big Knives." Wisconsin Indians traveled to Ohio. The Battle of Fallen Timbers was fought there. The British and Indians hoped to keep Americans out of the region. Because of this battle, Britain and the United States were close to war.

In 1794, John Jay was sent to London. He tried to end the trouble with the British. He wrote a treaty. It allowed the British to continue trading along water routes. However, the British agreed to give the post at Mackinac to the Americans.

But Jay's Treaty did not stop the problems. British and American traders still argued over the trading posts. There were misunderstandings about rights on the waterways.

About 1803, the United States bought the Louisiana Territory. This land was west of the Mississippi River. British traders were unhappy. They felt surrounded by Americans. All these problems helped to start the War of 1812.

The War of 1812

The United States and Britain went to war. Wisconsin was the scene of part of this conflict. (See the article *The War of 1812*). The war ended with a treaty in 1814. The British agreed to leave the Northwest. American forts were built at Prairie du Chien and at Green Bay. Traders in these places began to work for American companies.

Early Mining

At the same time, some settlers became interested in mining. They found lead in southwestern Wisconsin. As early at 1788, Julien Dubuque received permission to mine in Wisconsin. After the war other miners wanted to open mines. Finally, in 1822, the government agreed. Miners rushed to Wisconsin. New Diggings, Shullsburg, Wiota, Platteville and other towns grew. Indians were unhappy to see settlers arrive.

Indians Leave

The struggle between the Indians and settlers ended with the Black Hawk War. Indians gave up rights to Wisconsin land. They moved westward.

In 1834 land offices opened at Mineral Point and Green Bay. Settlers were offered land at the price of $1.25 per acre. The first public road was planned. Settlers arrived in Milwaukee. Almost half of Wisconsin's 11,000 people lived in the mining area. However, farming began to be important to Wisconsin.

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A Territory

In 1836 Congress created the Territory of Wisconsin. Mining and the fur trade were no longer important. Wisconsin looked toward new industries -- lumbering and farming. Wisconsin became a state in 1848. It was the last state carved out of the Northwest Territory. The task of the Ordinance of 1787 was finished.

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Flag of the War of 1812

In 1783, Britain and the United States signed a treaty. The Revolutionary War was over. Britain gave up the land that later became Wisconsin. However, British soldiers stayed in forts at Detroit and Mackinac. British traders used these places as trading posts. Jay's Treaty was written in 1794. The forts were turned over to the Americans.

The War of 1812

By Howard Kanetzke

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But the fur trade remained in the hands of the British. The treaty allowed them to travel the waterways of the United States.

Indians

An Indian leader, Tecumseh, was troublesome to Americans. Tecumseh hoped to organize all Indians into one nation. He said, "Do not accept the American's way of life." He also said that settlers should not take lands from Indians. Indians liked Tecumseh. Settlers feared him.

War

Some Congressmen blamed the British for Indian troubles. But Americans had another problem. The British Navy
60 was forcing American sailors to work on British ships. Finally, in 1812, Congress declared war on England.

Most English traders had expected war. The Indians who traded with the British did not like Americans. These tribes were eager to fight. They planned to capture American forts. Mackinac fell on July 17. The American commander there did not even know about the war. He was surprised to see the British with an army of Indians.

The fall of Mackinac gave other Indians courage. They decided to help the British. One group attacked and captured Ft. Dearborn (Chicago). Next to fall was Detroit. The northwest was in the hands of the British and Indians.

Americans were unhappy. The war had been started to put the British in their place. But Britain was winning. American settlers had to flee from Michigan and Illinois. In Wisconsin, not one person admitted liking Americans. Tecumseh had become a British general. He was leading Indian attacks on forts in Ohio.

A New American Fort

Prairie du Chien was known as a crossroads of the northwest. It is located where the Wisconsin River flows into the Mississippi. This was an important location for a fort.

William Clark, an American, was governor of Missouri Territory. He gathered troops to build the fort. In May, 1814, one hundred and forty men left St. Louis. They arrived in Prairie du Chien in early June. The men began work on Ft. Shelby. It was built on a small hill near the village. The fort was named in honor of the governor of Kentucky.

Clark returned to St. Louis. However, he left a gunboat to protect the fort from attack by water. Joseph Perkins was in charge. He was to complete the fort and command the soldiers. On June 19 the fort was finished. The American flag was raised for the first time in Wisconsin.

British Plans

The British commander at Mackinac heard about the American fort. He decided to force the Americans to leave. Indians were asked to help. More than 130 Indians and 75 Canadians left Mackinac. William McKay led the band.

One of the officers was Thomas Anderson. He had been a trader in Wisconsin. The State Historical Society of Wisconsin has his diary. Jokingly he writes, "I was made a captain, mounted in a red coat, (and given) an old rusty sword. A red cock feather adorned (decorated) my round hat."

As the army traveled through Wisconsin, other Indians joined. McKay wrote that he had about 650 men. More than 500 were Indians.

Attack!

On Sunday morning, July 17, Ft. Shelby was quiet. Then a message arrived. The British were only three miles away! Soon Thomas Anderson arrived with a message from McKay. Perkins was told to surrender. "Otherwise, I order you to defend yourself to the last man," was the message. Perkins refused to surrender.

The British attacked the American gunboat. It dropped anchor and drifted downstream. The fort was now alone. Meanwhile, the Indians raided the village. This action angered McKay. The villagers were friends of the British.

McKay ordered cover built for the cannons. Then they could be moved close to the fort. He later wrote, "At six in the evening, I marched to the first breastwork (shelter). I intended to throw (shoot) the remaining iron balls red hot into the fort to set it on fire." But, at that moment, a white flag was put up over the fort.

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An officer delivered a note to McKay:

"Sir,

I am willing to surrender, provided you will save and protect my officers and men, and prevent the Indians from ill-treating them.

I am respectfully,
Your obedient humble servant
Joseph Perkins, Capt.
Commander, U.S. Troops."

McKay replied:

"Sir,

I will thank you to (wait) until eight o'clock tomorrow morning. You shall march out with the honors of war, parade before the fort, deliver up your arms, and put yourself under the protection of the troops under my command.

I am Sir,
Your obedient humble servant,
William McKay, Lt. Col.
Commanding Expedition."

McKay called the Indians together. He told them the Americans were not to be harmed. Prisoners were kept under strong guard to protect them from the Indians. McKay later wrote: "It was with much difficulty I preserved

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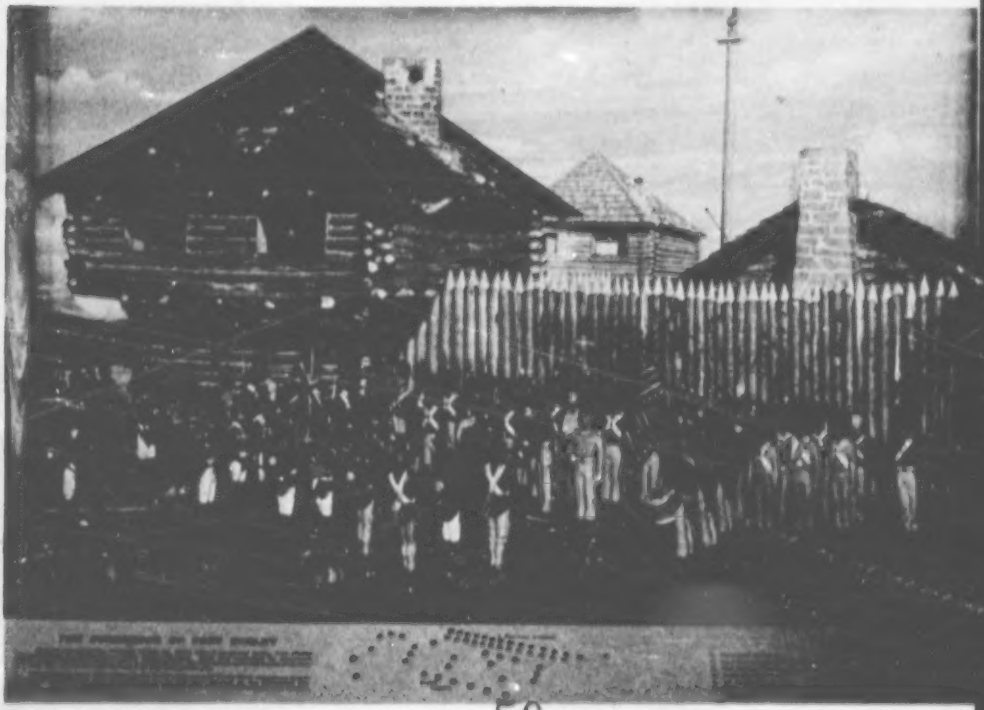

(protected) the prisoners from the Indians."

McKay had only a small supply of food. He could not keep the prisoners. Yet, he could not send them to Mackinac Too many soldiers would be needed to guard them. McKay had to keep his soldiers at the fort. There was a chance that the Americans might return. So McKay freed the prisoners. They went down the Mississippi to St. Louis.

Another Battle

The commander at St. Louis did not know that Ft. Shelby had been lost. Two days earlier he had sent help by boat. About halfway to Prairie du Chien, Sauk Indians discovered the boats. They opened fire. One of the barges was forced to shore. The following day the boats returned to St. Louis.

Then Joseph Perkins reached St. Louis. He reported on the size of the British army. Plans were laid to recapture the fort ——now called Ft. McKay. Zachary Taylor set out with 300 troops. News of this reached Thomas Anderson, commander of Ft. McKay. Anderson sent men and two cannons to aid the Sauk Indians. They had been successful before. Perhaps they could be again. Sioux and Fox Indians also came to the aid of the British. Eight hundred Indians waited for the Americans.

On the night of September 7, 1814 Taylor approached. He sent messengers to tell the Indians that he wanted to attack the British, not the Indians. He flew white flags over his boats. Taylor hoped the Indians would believe the messages.

That night, two guards were killed. In the morning, the battle started. The British cannon opened on the first boat. 63
The large boat was hit 15 times in less than one hour. It drifted to the rear. The rest followed. The British dragged the cannon along the shore. They continued to fire. But the American boats had moved out of range. The redcoats did not have enough supplies to follow. The boats returned to St. Louis. Ft. McKay was still in the hands of the British when the war ended.

Britain and the United States signed a treaty. Britain agreed to give up Ft. McKay and the other posts in the northwest.

Using What We've Learned

Jonathan Carver and Charles Langlade fought in different sides at the battle of Ft. William Henry. Imagine that they met when Carver visited Wisconsin. What might they have said to each other?

Discover whether Revolutionary War soldiers are buried in your community. Write a few paragraphs about each.

Both Carver and Pond wrote about a Sauk village on the Wisconsin River. Compare their descriptions. Do you think that they saw the same village? Why?

Draw a picture of Carver and his Indian companion at the Falls of St. Anthony.

64 Trace Carver's route on a map. Using the map key, discover about how many miles he traveled. How long might that trip take by car today? By bike?

Write a play telling about the main events in Nathaniel Ames' life.

Write a poem about the "Father of Wisconsin."

Write a diary that might have been kept at Ft. Shelby by an American soldier during the War of 1812.

END

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